Warm me

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Archive Warning:	Graphic Depictions Of Violence
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Characters:	Aiden (Blood and Chocolate), Duncan Vizla | Black Kaiser
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by TigerPrawn

Summary

Out in the wilderness, Duncan encounters a mysterious figure...

NOTE: I'm really sorry to all the guests who enjoy and comment on my works, but due to the ongoing threat of theft and plagiarism by AI tech, I have made the decision to lock all my works.
THIS WORK WILL REMAIN UNLOCKED UNTIL POSTING IS COMPLETE.

Notes

This story was written as a choose your own adventure with folks voting on the next chapter. So thanks to everyone for voting, hope you enjoy the results!

See the end of the work for more notes

Duncan trudged through the snow. He hadn't expected it to come down so thick and fast, and was glad when he sighted his tent. It couldn't come too soon, the snow had started to seep in through even his thick coat and if he got wet then there was the risk of hypothermia.

He was glad when he opened the flap and stepped inside, immediately protected from the biting wind. He dropped the brace of rabbits into the crate just inside the flap, and stripped off his outer layers, placing those on top to allow all the moisture to drain in one place.

He knew he'd return too late to his camp to be able to easily light a fire. The last of the light was gone and now it was too wet. Duncan was about to take off his boots and crawl under the furred blankets to hunker down until dawn, when he was sure he heard something outside.

It was hard to tell at first, the wind and rain making a racket of its own. But then it was gone again.

Duncan hadn't got as far as he had in his profession without being cautious, so he shouldered his rifle and tentatively pulled back the flap, deciding to inspect the area around his camp.

He had barely reached the edge of the small clearing when something caught his eye. A lump where the day before there hadn't been a rock or a fallen tree. The snow was coming down so thick that he could barely see a foot ahead of him, but as he drew closer he was sure that the lump was moving. It was barely any movement, and at first he couldn't be sure it wasn't just the snow clouding his already limited vision.

But then he heard the pained moan.

With a huff, Duncan crouched next to the lump and began to wipe away the thick layer of snow already settling on the figure. He huffed again. Duncan bristled at the thought of having someone in his little camp, his solitude. But in a lifetime of killing, there was something very different about leaving someone to suffer and die slowly.

Duncan stripped off one of his thick gloves and used it to push the snow off of the body, until he was finally able to get to what lay below. A shivering figure in a coat that was way too thin for this environment. It took him a moment to work out which way was up, but in the end found the person's arms and pulled him out of the snow bank.

They were light, barely there, and still shivering uncontrollably. At least that was a good sign. If they were hypothermic, their internal heat regulation was still working, for now.

Duncan dropped his glove in order to drag the body up into his arms and turn back to the tent. The snow was even thicker now, up to his knees as he practically waded back.

The wind had picked up too, and Duncan had to set the body down just outside the tent in order to clear snow and then let himself back in carefully, to ensure that he wasn't followed by half a snowstorm.

He took off his remaining glove and set it on his coat and then took another breath. He hadn't realised how cold he was himself. Now soaked to the skin by the snow. He knew better than to go out without his outer layers, but in that moment of realising someone was outside, he had only needed his rifle.

He drew in a breath before opening the flap enough to grab hold of the body and drag it inside the tent.

It lay lifeless there, mop of curly hair the only thing that made it even seem human. But there was a gentle rise and fall of breathing, and still an incessant shivering - signs of life.

Now he just had to keep them alive as the snowstorm worsened and the temperature dropped.

End Notes

The following choices were given:

- Duncan tries to light the fire
- Duncan wraps the person in furs
- Duncan strips them both off to share body heat

The one chosen for chapter two was: Duncan strips them both off to share body heat 0_0

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